building design and technology under the National Programme for Capacity Building of Engineers for Earthquake Risk Management. Awareness generation programmes have also been taken up for earthquake risk reduction. Steps have been initiated to include disaster management in school education and technical education.

Issue of visas to Chinese visitors

3041. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that procedure for issue of visas by the Government of India to Chinese visitors in India was very slow and tardy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that work visas are not issued to the Chinese people and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are considering any reforms in the procedure for issue of visas and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have received any representation from the Chinese Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Different types of visas including 'Employment Visa' are issued to Chinese nationals strictly in accordance with the Visa Agreement signed between India and China in June, 2003.

(e) and (f) Such issues are discussed from time-to-time in accordance with existing inter-governmental agreements between India and China.